

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1.-2. (cancelled)
3. (currently amended) A nucleic acid construct comprising a simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV) SIV-1 gag gene having the coding sequence of the *gag* gene set forth in Figure 3.
4. (cancelled)
5. (previously presented) A vector comprising the nucleic acid construct of Claim 3.
6. (currently amended) An isolated transformed host cell comprising the nucleic acid construct of Claim 3.
7. (original) A transformed host cell of Claim 6 wherein said cell is a eukaryote.
8. (original) The host cell of Claim 7 wherein said cell is a human cell.
9. (original) A transformed host cell of Claim 6 wherein said cell is a prokaryote.
10. (original) The host cell of Claim 9 wherein said cell is E. coli.

11. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the nucleic acid construct of Claim 3 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

12.-35. (cancelled)